

Subject: Indian coinage--disposal of

Ritchie, John
[Malden, MA]

1929

RESIDENCE
115 WASHINGTON STREET
MALDEN, MASS.

JOHN RITCHIE

TELEPHONE
MALDEN 4410

Malden, April 6, 1929

Mr. Howland Wood,
Curator, American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155 th. Street, N.Y.C.,

Dear Sir:-

Mr. Shepard Pond has given me your name as affording probably information that he can not give.

I have among other minor items from my sister's estate a few Hindu coins. Some are purchases made by her and others probably remains of money used in the various states. My idea in noting them to you is merely that if there is anything of interest to collectors, I shall be glad to dispose of them at the buyer's own price. I am not worrying about the money, but being a collector of shells, I know that the collector likes the short way rather than the roundabout dealer, who milks buyer and seller alike.

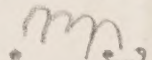
I am noting here the various items described as well as I can. I tried to get some rubs, but they did not seem to work well.


Any information will be gladly received. Thanking you in advance

I am, Sincerely Yours,

John Ritchie

The first group is of slugs, roughly rounded, with portions of an apparently continuous pattern variously disposed on them. All in a group seem to have one key-pattern or design.

Gold coin from Hyderabad? about 1/4 inch in diameter. The principal distinguishable pattern is like a writing m with an additional curve from the top of the last curve. A curve lies below. > 

Said to be from Jaipur--four sizes--one as large as a nickel but twice as thick--one the size of a dime but twice as thick--two smaller and six about like the old three-cent piece. One copper coin larger than a nickel. The key pattern is like a plant, a stalk, three leaves each side and a bent over round blossom or berry. The obverse has for its only constant design five dots in a pentagon. > 

Ejaïn--two slugs, nickel size and one three-cent size. Pattern a sun-god character, something like eyes, eyebrows and nose inside an ovoid cog-wheel. this is included in a letter like a sickle, with a straight letter above. obverse, varied. Said to have the name of Shah Alam II or Allam II.

Indore--one slug, nickel size--no key design--hammock-shaped letterings

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Unplaced--silver slug-smaller than a dime--covered with one sun-god face, detailed eyes, nose and mouth and rays all about. Obverse, letters

Two copper slugs--dime size- three-branched candlestick on one side and a four-looped knot on the other.

Copper coin--Sanskrit letterings-on one side in an outer circle enclosing straight inscription of four characters with sword below--obverse--value and date enclosed in dots and a pattern of vines, circular.

Gualior--much like above in workmanship. Horse or more probably bull, within Sanskrit circle--obverse--value and date within dots and circular border of twined vines. Coin somewhat hammered and defaced.

Hyderabad--modern-one silver, small half-dollar--one about quarter--one somewhat larger than dime and three smaller. All coins, well struck, Taj or temple gate with obverse-central lettering within circle, ring of lettering outside with indented border on larger coins. ~~ran~~

With these one (dime) silver coin with rajah's head in circle of Sanskrit, one small with rajah's head and inscription--obverse--value in Sanskrit within a wreath.

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British India--one rupee, Victoria-1891--one half-rupee, Victoria, 1897--quarter-rupee, Victoria, 1889-- two two-anna pieces, Victoria, 1895, 1896-- six copper twelfth-anna, 3 Victoria, 3 Edward.

Five East India Company copper--one half-anna 1835--^{two}~~one~~ quarter-annas, 1835-- two quarter-annas, 1858

Ceylon--one copper slug--pattern, four snakes sitting up on tails--two one-anna, Edward--one each, 25 cents, Victoria-10 cents Victoria, - one five cents Edward and one one cent Edward

Burma--three about half-dollar size, peacock and obverse, inscription in wreath, and two small ones--about three-cent size, with same designs.

China--two large half-dollars--yens; Dragon centre, Chinese rim with "one yen, 416-900" and obverse, square lettering in leaf wreath. One other hammered out of true. one 10-Sen. One Shantung coin about dime-size.

Portuguese India--copper 1/2 Tanga-1901.

Various minor Chinese-HongKong, Victoria 10-cents--^{four}~~two~~ HongKong 5-cents Victoria--

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Persia--copper coins--two quarter-dollar size, two nickel and two smaller. Arabic central ring with outer ring of lettering and the Persian seal on other side.

And some Chinese and Japanese ^{copper} ^{square} coins with holes in them.

8th April, 1929

Mr. John Ritchie,
Malden, Mass.

Dear Sir:

We have a very large collection of Indian coins but are always on the look-out for something different. It is extremely hard from your description to tell just what you have, as dates, minor varieties, etc., enter into the situation. Many of the pieces, however, I recognize, and for the most part I do not think there is anything rare. If you care to send them on, we would be pleased to look them over and make you an offer for anything you might want.

Very truly yours,

Curator